

Message Text

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PAGE 01 NICOSI 00818 101639 Z

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ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 NEAE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09

H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01

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P R 101610 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7217

INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

C O N F I D E N T I A L NICOSIA 818

E. O. 11652: XGDS 3

TAGS: PINS, CY

SUBJECT: MAKARIOS STATEMENT ON ARAB TERRORIST ACTIVITIES
IN CYPRUS

1. ARCHBISHOP ISSUED STATEMENT APRIL 10 DEPLORING EXTENSION
OF ARAB- ISRAELI CONFLICT TO CYPRUS AND CONDEMNING YESTERDAY' S
ARAB ATTACKS ON ISRAELI AMB' S RESIDENCE AND EL AL AIRCRAFT.

2. IN OUR VIEW, WHILE STATEMENT MIGHT HAVE BEEN STRONGER, IT
MEETS BASIC REQUIREMENT IN EXPRESSING GOC DETERMINATION TO
PREVENT SUCH ACTS ON ITS TERRITORY. POLICE ARE NOW DRAWING
UP CRIMINAL CHARGES AGAINST ARAB PRISONERS. WE WILL BE
BETTER ABLE TO GAUGE CYPRUS ATTITUDE WHEN WE LEARN WHETHER
THEY WILL ACTUALLY STAND TRIAL AND WHAT OUTCOME WILL BE. MEAN-
WHILE , CYPRIOTS WILL HAVE TO LIVE WITH FACT THAT AS LONG AS
THEY HOLD ARABS, THEIR OWN NATIONALS OR THOSE OF OTHER STATES
MAY BE SEIZED AT ANY TIME AS HOSTAGES TO PROCURE PRISONERS'
RELEASE.

3. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF MAKARIOS STATEMENT:

QUOTE YESTERDAY' S EVENTS, DURING WHICH MEMBERS OF THE
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PAGE 02 NICOSI 00818 101639 Z

NATIONAL ARAB YOUTH ORGANIZATION MADE AN ATTACK ON THE ISRAELI AMBASSADOR MR. TIMOR' S RESIDENCE IN NICOSIA AND ON AN AIRCRAFT OF THE ISRAELI AIRLINES, CONSTITUTE A REGRETTABLE CONFIRMATION THAT THE ARAB- ISRAELI CONFLICT HAS BEEN EXTENDED TO CYPRUS. WHEN SOME TIME AGO TWO INCIDENTS OCCURRED IN CYPRUS, THE MURDER OF AN ARAB AND THE SUBSEQUENT MURDER OF AN ISRAELI, THE HOPE WAS EXPRESSED THAT THESE WOULD REMAIN ISOLATED EVENTS WITHOUT ANY SEQUEL. YESTERDAY' S EVENTS, DURING WHICH THE CYPRUS POLICE WERE OBLIGED TO INTERVENE IN THE COURSE OF THEIR DUTY AND DURING WHICH TWO OF ITS MEMBERS WERE WOUNDED BY THE SAID ARAB ORGANIZATION, HAVE UNFORTUNATELY DISAPPOINTEED THIS HOPE. I EXPRESS MY DEEP SYMPATHY TO THE VICTIMS AND STRONGLY CONDEMN THIS ACTION OF THE ARAB ORGANIZATION WHICH HAS NOT AT ALL TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT THE DAMAGE CAUSED TO CYPRUS. CYPRUS HAS ITS OWN PROBLEMS AND DOES NOT WISH ITS TERRITORY TO BE USED AS A BATTLEFIELD IN THE ARAB- ISRAELI CONFLICT.

THE CYPRUS GOVERNMENT IS DETERMINED TO TAKE ALL MEASURES TO PREVENT THE CONTINUATION OF SUCH INADMISSIBLE ACTS ON CYPRUS SOIL. END QUOTE.
POPPER

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